



9200/2833

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/330,034
		Filing Date	06/11/1999
		First Named Inventor	Min-Chen Hsu
		Group Art Unit	
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	16	Attorney Docket Number	PMX074

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Petition to request consideration of the information disclosure statement
Remarks <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 40px; width: 100%;"></div>		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	WINSTON HSU
Signature	<i>Winston Hsu</i>
Date	4/9/2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on this date:

Typed or printed name			
Signature		Date	

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PTO/SB/17 (10-01)
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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2002

Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$ 0.00)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/330,034
Filing Date	06/11/1999
First Named Inventor	Min-Chen Hsu
Examiner Name	
Group Art Unit	
Attorney Docket No.	PMXP0074USA

METHOD OF PAYMENT

1. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge indicated fees and credit any overpayments to:

Deposit Account Number **50-0801**
Deposit Account Name **North America International Patent Office**

Charge Any Additional Fee Required
Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17
 Applicant claims small entity status.
See 37 CFR 1.27

2. Payment Enclosed:

Check Credit card Money Order Other

FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid		
101	740	201	370	Utility filing fee	
106	330	206	165	Design filing fee	
107	510	207	255	Plant filing fee	
108	740	208	370	Reissue filing fee	0.00
114	160	214	80	Provisional filing fee	

SUBTOTAL (1) (\$ 0.00)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES

Total Claims	Independent Claims	Multiple Dependent	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
			-20**	=	
			- 3***	=	
				=	

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description		
103	18	203	9	Claims in excess of 20
102	84	202	42	Independent claims in excess of 3
104	280	204	140	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
109	84	209	42	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
110	18	210	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2) (\$ 0.00)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Fee Code (\$)	Small Entity Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid		
105	130	205	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
127	50	227	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
139	130	139	130	Non-English specification	
147	2,520	147	2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
112	920*	112	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
113	1,840*	113	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
115	110	215	55	Extension for reply within first month	
116	400	216	200	Extension for reply within second month	
117	920	217	460	Extension for reply within third month	
118	1,440	218	720	Extension for reply within fourth month	
128	1,960	228	980	Extension for reply within fifth month	
119	320	219	160	Notice of Appeal	
120	320	220	160	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
121	280	221	140	Request for oral hearing	
138	1,510	138	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
140	110	240	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
141	1,280	241	640	Petition to revive - unintentional	
142	1,280	242	640	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
143	460	243	230	Design issue fee	
144	620	244	310	Plant issue fee	
122	130	122	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
123	50	123	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
126	180	126	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
581	40	581	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
146	740	246	370	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
149	740	249	370	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
179	740	279	370	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
169	900	169	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3) (\$ 0.00)

Complete (if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	WINSTON HSU	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	41,526	Telephone	886-2-8923-7350	
Signature	<i>Winston Hsu</i>				Date	4/9/2002

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Min-Chen Hsu; Chang-Kun Lu

5 Filing Date: 06/11/1999

Docket No.: PMX074

Serial No.: 09/330,034

Title: SUPPORTING APPARATUS

10

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Subject:

15 1. Information disclosure statement under 37C.F.R. §1.56.
2. Petition to request consideration of the information
disclosure statement.

Dear Sir:

20

This is an Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the duty to disclose information material to patentability under 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicants wish to make of record the document listed on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08. It is 25 respectfully requested that the examiner initials the cited reference on the form and that it be made of record in the application and that a copy of the initialed form be sent to the applicants with the next communication from the examiner.

30 Since the IDS is filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, a petition to request consideration of the information disclosure statement is hereby requested according to 37C.F.R. §1.97(b). The prior art patent contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in 35 communications from the Taiwan Intellectual Property Office on Sept. 18, 2000. Applicants sincerely hope that the examiner

can consider the item contained in the information disclosure statement.

According to the requirement set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.98
5 and M.P.E.P. 609 (Rev.1, Feb. 2000), applicants are submitting
a copy of the cited reference (Taiwan Patent No. 335,994) and
a concise explanation of the relevance in this application
hereinafter.

10 TP No.335,994 teaches to an improved cable carrier which
is used to carry a cable. Fig.1 is a schematic diagram of an
improved cable carrier 1. The cable carrier 1 comprises an
outer tube 10, a pliable but strong plastic rope 14 disposed
inside the outer tube 10, a supporting tube 12 installed in
15 parallel to the outer tube 10, a multicore steel wire 13 disposed
inside the supporting tube 12, and a conjunction tape 11
connecting the outer tube 10 and the supporting tube 12.

Fig.2 is a schematic diagram illustrating how the cable
20 carrier 1 is fixed to a flat wall 5. As shown in Fig.2, only
a nail is needed to fix the cable carrier 1 onto the flat wall
5. After the cable carrier 1 is fixed onto the flat wall 5,
one end of the plastic rope 14 can be connected to a cable
and the cable can be pulled into the outer tube 10 by pulling
25 the other end of the plastic rope 14 away from the outer tube
10.

Fig.3 is a schematic diagram illustrating how the cable
carrier 1 is fixed to a house or a bridge. In this embodiment,
30 part of the conjunction tape 11 is cut to separate from the
supporting tube 12 so that a fixing device 3 can fix the
supporting tube 12 and the multicore steel wire 13 onto the
house or on the bridge.

35 Fig.4, which is prior art disclosed in TP No.335,994,
illustrates that a supporting tube 4a and an outer tube 20

are connected by thin wires 4b. And the fixing device 3 is used to fix the supporting tube 4a onto a house or a bridge.

5 Claim 1 of the present application is repeated below for reference:

"1. A supporting apparatus for supporting an electric device in a car comprising:

10 a plug having a front end and a rear end over which the front end of the plug being can be plugged into and fixed in an electric socket of the car;

a flexible steel tube having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately;

15 a plurality of flexible steel wire ropes each having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately, the plurality of steel wire ropes being positioned separately at two sides of the steel tube for strengthening the steel tube; and

20 an electric wire installed in the steel tube for electrically connecting the electric device to the plug;

25 wherein when an user bends or rotates the supporting apparatus, the steel tube and steel wire ropes of the supporting apparatus will be flexibly bent or rotated and the electric device will be approximately maintained at the bent or rotated position."

The differences between claim 1 of the present application and the cited art are listed as follows:

30 1) Claim 1 of the present application claims a supporting apparatus for supporting an electric device in a car. The cited art teaches a cable carrier, not a supporting apparatus for supporting an electric device in a car.

35 2) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises a plug having a front end and a rear

end over which the front end of the plug can be plugged into and fixed in an electric socket of the car. The cited art fails to teach a plug, and fails to teach that the cable carrier can be plugged into and fixed in an electric socket of the car.

3) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises a flexible steel tube having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately. The cited art teaches a plastic rope 14 which has an end connected to a cable and the cable can be pulled into the outer tube 10 by pulling the other end of the plastic rope 14 away from the outer tube 10. However, the cited art fails to teach that the plastic rope 14 has two ends fixed to a rear end of a plug and an electric device separately.

4) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises a plurality of flexible steel wire ropes each having two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately, the plurality of steel wire ropes being positioned separately at two sides of the steel tube for strengthening the steel tube. The cited art teaches a pliable but strong plastic rope 14 disposed inside the outer tube 10, and a multicore steel wire 13 disposed inside the supporting tube 12. However, neither the plastic rope 14 nor the steel wire 13 has two ends fixed to the rear end of the plug and the electric device separately. Further, the cited art fails to teach that one of the steel wire 13 and the plastic rope 14 is used to strengthen the other.

5) The supporting apparatus of claim 1 of the present application comprises an electric wire installed in the steel tube for electrically connecting the electric device to the plug. Although a cable can be pulled into the outer tube 10 of the cited art, the cited art fails to teach where the two ends of the cable are connected to.

6) In claim 1 of the present application, when an user bends or rotates the supporting apparatus, the steel tube and steel wire ropes of the supporting apparatus will be flexibly bent
5 or rotated and the electric device will be approximately maintained at the bent or rotated position. The cited art, however, fails to teach the situation of the cable carrier when the cable carrier is bent or rotated.

10 Based on at least the above differences, it is believed that claim 1 of the present application is substantially different from the cited art patent TP No.335,994. And since all other claims are dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be substantially different from the cited art.

15

Respectfully Submitted,

20

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25

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Date: 4/9/2002

